

## VOTE FOR STATEHOOD.

Statehood For New Mexico is in the Balance.

Next Tuesday Will, in All Probability, Decide the Statehood Question.

Judging from the action of the conventions which have been held within the past few days in different counties in the territory, the leading politicians have come to the conclusion that Joseph is the man for delegate from New Mexico, not only on account of the fact that he is the better man of the three candidates running for the office, but because it is to the interest of the territory to have a democrat elected as delegate.

In the first place, a delegate who belongs to the same political party as the administration can undoubtedly do more for the territory than a man whose political views are at variance with those of the administration. A delegate at best is clothed with but little authority and when a delegate goes to make up a part of the opposition to the administration he is a very unimportant personage. He carries little enough weight when he is in sympathy with the party in power, but when he is of the opposite political faith his influence is still more limited. It is certain that we will have a democratic president and that the democrats will control the senate until March 4th, 1897, when the term of the delegate to be elected next week will expire. The political complexion of the next house of representatives will be determined next Tuesday. The democrats will, in all probability, have a majority but it will be smaller than the majority in the present house. If the citizens of New Mexico want a delegate who will have any influence at Washington, it will be necessary to elect a democrat for delegate. A populist would have no influence whatever and a republican would have to ask favors of the democrats which might not be readily granted.

Another important matter to be considered is the question of the admission of New Mexico into the union. The admission of new states has always been and still is a political matter. The dominant party will admit those states and those alone which can be relied upon to furnish majorities for the party in power. Republicans have never admitted states which would send democrats to the senate and house of representatives and democrats have never admitted states which they believed would be of assistance to the republicans. In the game of politics the players do not give points to their opponents any more than whist players give points to their opponents. If New Mexico goes democratic at the election next week and a democratic

legislature should be elected, there is no doubt but that the bill for admission of the territory would be passed by the democratic senate. On the other hand, if the territory should go republican and a republican legislature should be elected, there would not be the slightest possibility for the admission of New Mexico passing the senate for two years at least. The democratic majority in the senate would never vote for a bill which would substantially provide for the admission of two republicans to the senate and thus give the senate to the republicans.

It is of as much importance to elect a democratic legislature as it is to elect a democratic delegate to congress, for without both the territory will not be admitted. It is by no means certain that New Mexico would be admitted if the bill now before the senate should become a law. A constitution would have to be framed and adopted before the territory could be admitted and it is possible that a constitution would be voted down, but it is hardly probable.

The need of development and the necessity for the introduction of capital for this purpose is but too apparent to the residents of New Mexico and it is well known that capitalists are shy about investing money in the territory. They talk of instability and insecurity and do not invest.

There is room for millions upon millions of capital to be invested in irrigating schemes in this territory, but the capital will be very slow in coming as long as New Mexico remains a territory. Let it be admitted and then it will not be so difficult to get money here for investment. The proposition is purely a business one. In order to get money here for investment we must be admitted to the union and in order to get admitted we must demonstrate to the dem-

ocratic majority in congress that the territory is democratic. Clear headed business men will see that it is good business policy to vote the democratic ticket and people generally vote for their interests. Few voters are so blinded by partisanship that they will vote against their own interests in order to help a political party. If statehood means prosperity for New Mexico, and there are few in the territory who do not believe that it does, it is clear that statehood can only come through the democratic party if it is to come in less than three years, it is hard to see why there should not be a larger democratic majority given for the democratic candidate for delegate this year than has ever been given in the territory when it is plain that statehood depends on a democratic majority.

DEMOCRAT.

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